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Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 PA-02
SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /093 R

DRAFTED BY AF/P:BARUSSELL:ADR
APPROVED BY AF/P:FDCOOK
----------114185 201200Z /10
R 201111Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USICA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE
USINT HAVANA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY BANJUL
AMCONSUL BUKAVU
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY BANGUI
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY KIGALI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
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AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMEMBASSY PRAIA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

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AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING, JULY 19, 1978

FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL, UNCORRECTED EXCERPT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING. IF NECESSARY OFFICIAL VERSION WILL FOLLOW.

Q: COULD I ASK YOU WHETHER THIS GOVERNMENT HAS ANY REACTION TO THE STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO PRIME MINISTER SMITH IN A PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY THAT THE CONSTITUTIONAL AGREEMENT PROMISING BLACK MAJORITY RULE BY THE END OF THE YEAR WILL NOT BE CARRIED OUT UNLESS THERE'S A CEASE-FIRE IN THE SIX-YEAR-OLD GUERRILLA WAR?

A: WE UNDERSTAND THAT MR. SMITH NOTED THAT ONE OF THE PARTS OF THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT WAS THAT THE WAR WOULD
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HAVE TO END SO THAT ELECTIONS COULD BE HELD UNDER PEACEFUL CONDITIONS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT HE WENT ON TO STATE HIS DISAPPOINTMENT AT THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN THIS REGARD. AND HE APPARENTLY -- AND HERE WE ONLY HAVE PRESS REPORTS -- INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER WITH HIS OTHER COLLEAGUES ON THE SALISBURY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL THE POSSIBILITY OF ATTENDING A MEETING OF ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED, AS WE AND THE BRITISH HAVE PROPOSED.

WE BELIEVE THAT MR. SMITH'S REMARKS UNDERSCORE THE DELICACY OF THE SITUATION IN RHODESIA AND THE DIFFICULTY OF CREATING CONDITIONS OF PEACE WITHOUT AN AGREEMENT THAT IS ACCEPTABLE TO ALL THE PARTIES.

-- IT ALSO UNDERSCORES THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR CONTINUING EFFORTS WITH THE BRITISH TO BRING ALL THE PARTIES TOGETHER AT A MEETING WHERE SUCH AN AGREEMENT COULD BE NEGOTIATED.

-- WE HOPE THAT THE CONGRESS WILL ACT WITH RESTRAINT IN REGARD TO THIS DELICATE SITUATION.

-- IN THIS CONNECTION, PASSAGE OF THE HELMS AMENDMENT

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TO LIFT SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA COULD SERIOUSLY UNDER-
MINE OUR PURSUIT OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

Q: WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO FOLLOW UP? ARE YOU GOING TO
SEND SOMEBODY TO TALK TO MR. SMITH?

A: WE HAVE BEEN TALKING WITH MR. SMITH AND HIS COLLEAGUES
RIGHT ALONG. MESSRS. GRAHAM AND LOW HAVE HAD EXTENSIVE
CONSULTATIONS IN THE AREA. THIS IS A MATTER OF ONGOING
CONSULTATIONS BY BOTH THE BRITISH AND THE AMERICAN
GOVERNMENTS WITH ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED IN THE AREA.
WE WANT TO FIND OUT WITH PRECISION WHERE THESE PARTIES
STAND ON THE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES AS WELL AS ON THE

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POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING AN ALL-PARTIES CONGRESS.
CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
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Format: TEL
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780737/aaaabfjb.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 795da66f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Classification: n/a
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Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1938103
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Subject: DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING, JULY 19, 1978 FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL, UNCORRECTED EXCERPT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING. IF NE CESSARY
TAGS: SOPN, US
To: KINSHASA LUBUMBASHI MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/795da66f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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